



# REVIEWS

## BOOKS

Reviewed by Ruth Parnell

### **DAMANHUR: The Real Dream** by Jeff Merrifield

Publisher: Thorsons, UK, 1998  
ISBN: 0-7225-3496-5 (278pp h/c)  
Price: AUD\$39.95; NZD\$59.95;  
GBP£16.99; NLGf61,90

Distributors: **Aust/NZ/UK**— HarperCollins Publishers; **Europe**—NEXUS office

A unique community was established in 1977 when a small, spiritually based collective, led by Oberto Airaudi, found a special property in the Piedmont valley of Valchiusella, north of Turin, Italy. The area has a "freak gravitational quality" and is one of only a couple of places where four "synchronic" energy lines converge.

So was Damanhur born, but it was another year before they began their secret mission: to excavate with their bare hands a sacred space inside a mountain and create their *Tempio dell'Uomo*, the Temple of Mankind. Their digging was a metaphor for digging deep into their souls, says author Jeff Merrifield who discovered the community in 1996 and was moved to write this potted history, *Damanhur: The Real Dream*.

The Temple complex consists of several halls—of elements (Earth, Water, Metal), Spheres and Mirrors—linked by corridors and spiral staircases, and exquisitely decorated with stained glass and mosaics designed on esoteric themes for ritualistic purposes. Its existence was broken to the outside world in 1992, bringing the community into conflict with local authorities.

Undeterred, the Damanhurians, 700 of them at last count, continue to flourish.

They live according to a philosophy based on arcane knowledge and esoteric physics which they apply equally and practically to their social, economic and spiritual structures. The fruits of their labours, whether in producing top-quality foodstuffs, visionary art or even time-machines, speak for such grand visions being achievable if sustained with correctly focused energy. Their experiences have relevance for all community-minded individuals.

### **GLIMPSES OF OTHER REALITIES**

#### **Volume II: High Strangeness**

by Linda Moulton Howe

Publisher: Paper Chase Press, USA, 1998  
ISBN: 0-473-04505-2 (498pp tpb)  
Price: AUD\$55.00; GBP£25.00;  
NLGf79,90; USD\$27.95

Available: **Aust/UK/Eur**— NEXUS offices; **USA**—Paper Chase Press, 8175 S. Virginia St #850-D, Reno, NV 89511, ph (702) 826 5947, fax (702) 853 6329

For (and since) volume two of *Glimpses of Other Realities*, subtitled *High Strangeness*, award-winning author/journalist Linda Moulton Howe has accumulated some intriguing testimony from former military insiders who want the truth about UFO/ET phenomena to come out. (See her latest article in this issue.)

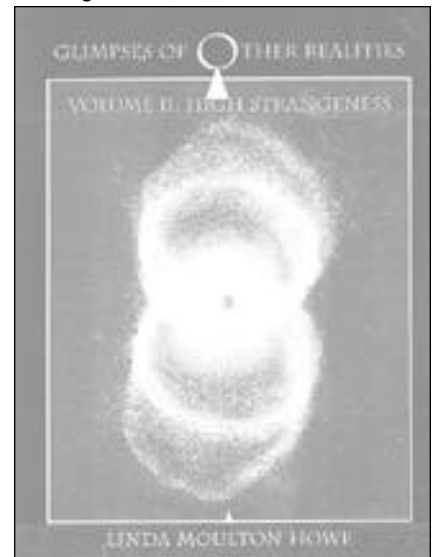
This weighty work is really several books in one, covering not only the military evidence but the stories of several "abductees" who claim to have had close interactions with a variety of alien life forms. Howe herself admits that this testimony is hard to verify, but she presents it for what it suggests about how big the 'Big Picture' really is.

It's an incredibly complex blend of scenar-

ios involving time-travelling aliens abducting humans for mind control, physical experiment and soul transfer and even tampering with the very genetic code of humanity at various times in our history. The evidence from some abductees is that such manipulation is frowned upon by higher level extraterrestrials who have access to an Even Bigger Picture—and hopefully have access to a catastrophe override button!

One scenario has the planet's atmosphere set on fire in the not-too-distant future by an Earth-based experiment that may impact on all the other dimensions beyond our awareness. Could this be the HAARP ionospheric experiment gone wrong?

Howe shows the courage of her convictions in presenting these mind-blowing scenarios and attempting to make sense of them in the light of a Greater Whole.



# REVIEWS



## BOOKS

### THE PERILS OF PROGRESS

by John Ashton and Ron Laura

Publisher: UNSW Press, Australia, 1998

ISBN: 0-86840-488-8 (346pp tpb)

Price: AUD\$29.95; NZD\$29.95 + p&h;

USD\$34.95 inc. p&h in USA

Distributors: **Aust**—UNSW Press, Sydney

NSW 2052, ph (02) 9664 0999, e-mail,

sales.press@unsw.edu.au; **NZ**—Green

Phoenix Marketing, ph (06) 355 1298;

**USA**—International Specialized Book

Service, ph 1800 944 6190

The price we've paid for progress has been high, and our economies can no longer be oriented towards growth at any cost. Moreover, that price has exacted an enormous toll on our health and Nature.

The threats to our well-being are everywhere, but as food chemist John Ashton and education professor Ron Laura point out in their latest co-written book, *The Perils of Progress*, we can take precautions in our day-to-day lives to minimise their impact on our health and the environment.

Ashton and Laura consider the dangers posed by electrical, food, water and environmental technology with reference to the latest scientific research. First, they look at the deleterious health effects of electromagnetic fields, mobile phones, microwave ovens, computer VDUs and televisions, and how to counteract them. Next, they present frightening information on just how contaminated our food has become, with processing and additives, toxins like cadmium and aluminium, and irradiation and pesticides exerting unknown effects in combination.

From there, Ashton and Laura warn of the

dangers of poisoning our precious water supplies through chlorination and fluoridation and of polluting our indoor environments with air conditioning and artificial light. In fact, there is strong evidence linking fluorescent lighting with melanoma.

The authors are adamant that ordinary people, organised in grassroots-level campaigns and armed with the facts, can overcome and even eradicate these perils that put our lives and future in such jeopardy.

### ATLANTIS IN AMERICA: Navigators of the Ancient World

by Ivar Zapp and George Erikson

Publisher: Adventures Unlimited, 1998

ISBN: 0-932813-52-6 (398pp trade pb)

Price: AUD\$28.00; NZD\$35.00;

GBP£15.50; NLGf39.90; USD\$17.95

Available: **Aust/NZ/UK/Eur**— NEXUS

offices; **USA**—Adventures Unlimited, PO

Box 74, Kempton, IL 60946, ph (815) 253

6390, fax (815) 253 6300

The most overlooked key to understanding the history of ancient civilisations is the role of navigation, say the authors of this engrossing book, *Atlantis in America*. And all navigational roads in the megalithic world led to and from Central America—or Atlantis—according to Professor Ivar Zapp and writer George Erikson.

Prof. Zapp, based at the University of Costa Rica, has spent many years studying the huge stone spheres—some measuring over nine feet in diameter and weighing as much as 20 tons—found in the Diquis Delta region of southwest Costa Rica. While the triangular layout of some of these spheres was mapped in 1949, Zapp has determined that their axes were oriented towards magnetic north and their line projections took in

key regions in the Pacific and Atlantic oceans as well as megalithic temple sites at Stonehenge and the Giza plateau.

These stone sphere arrangements had to have been navigational maps and teaching aids, incorporating knowledge about ocean currents as well as the stars, conclude Zapp and Erikson (who brings chaos theory and archaeoastronomy into the investigation).

Their examination presents a much different picture to the conventional Eurocentric historical world view of the antiquity and evolution of civilisation in the Americas. Moreover, it gives a scathing critique of the Catholic Church's role in rewriting history.

The authors expand their argument with reference to the Beringia myth, evidence of cataclysms over the millennia, new civilisations built on top of old, surviving legends, out-of-context artefacts, and much more.





# REVIEWS

## BOOKS

### LETTER TO EARTH

by Elia Wise

Publisher: Inspired Company, USA, 1998  
ISBN: 0-9625678-1-7 (221pp h/c)  
Price: AUD\$60.00; GBPE26.00 inc. p&h;  
NLGf74,90; USD\$34.00 + \$4.50 p&h;  
CAD\$43.00 inc. p&h  
Available: **Aust**—Cameron Books, ph (02) 4758 7676, fax (02) 4758 9047; **UK/ Europe**—NEXUS offices; **USA**—Inspired Company, PO Box 10, Mill Valley, CA 94942, ph (415) 388 6544; (877) 986 3000 (toll-free in US); **Canada**—Words, ph 1800 593 9673

Humanity is on the brink of an Age of Inspired Realism in which we will be able to integrate knowledge of the multidimensional nature of things into a coherent whole, inclusive of both science and spirituality. But our transformation to this state depends on the love we bring to bear, writes Elia Wise in her beautifully produced compendium of wisdom, *Letter to Earth*.

The ultimate in adventure travel is the journey into the universe through expanded consciousness—a journey that California-based Wise has been involved with for the last 30 years in her role as a transformational healer/speaker/trainer/writer and "applied metaphysicist". Her personal experience with entry into lofty states of being make her a special kind of tour guide. And her becoming a mother in her late 40s inspired her to pass on, via letters to her daughter and to the world, her acquired wisdom on our place in the cosmos, the nature of good and evil and how we can change our world.

Central to her "theory of everything" is the

universal concept and practice of sympathetic vibrational magnetism (SVM). She explains that energy, no matter how simple or complex, and regardless of its location, has the inherent capacity to interact magnetically with all other energy. Coincidences and synchronicities are demonstrations of SVM: the ability of a unit of energy to attract what it needs for its transformation.

What Wise describes is experiential knowledge and wisdom that is age-old and timeless, and though it has been written about before, she has a unique presentation that is cohesive, instructive and inspirational. The insights abound on every page.

### NORTHUMBERLAND DREAMING: A Past Life Remembered by Mary Rhees Mercker

Publisher: Hampton Roads, USA, 1998  
ISBN: 1-57174-086-4 (422pp tpb)  
Price: AUD\$30.95; NZD\$39.95;  
GBPE11.99; NLGf42,90; USD\$14.95  
Distributors: **Aust**—Gemcraft, ph (03) 9888 0111; **NZ**—Peaceful Living, ph (07) 571 8105; **UK**—Airlift Book Company, ph 0181 8040400; **Europe**—NEXUS office; **USA**—Hampton Roads Publishing Co., ph (804) 296 2772, 1800 766 8009;

**Canada**—Dempsey, ph (604) 708 1081  
If you've ever entertained thoughts and visions of past lives, imagine what it would be like to recall a life experience in detail. This is what apparently happened to Missouri-born Mary Rhees Mercker, who over the years encountered a strange face looking back at her in the mirror. At age 37 she was ready to confront the apparition, and suddenly found herself greeting the male personage as "Sir John". He spoke to her in

mediaeval English about his life and times as a knight in Northumberland, northern England, in the 12th century.

Not content to take this on face value, Rhees Mercker delved into her family genealogy and discovered that she was in fact a descendant of this knight, Sir John Forster, who was born in 1159, was knighted for valour during the 3rd Crusade by Richard the Lionheart in 1190 and died in 1220. Furthermore, she began to realise that she had actually been Sir John in a previous life, and many of the people he loved dearly have been reborn into her present timeline.

Mercker's book, *Northumberland Dreaming*, is the recreation of Sir John's lifetime as pieced together through visionary states as well as study of historical records. In many instances she was tracing some seemingly factual detail, only to be correct-



# REVIEWS



## BOOKS

ed by Sir John whose anecdotes told a slightly different story. In 1996 and 1997 she managed to travel to Northumberland and was able to recognise so many of the locations and sites as seen in her visions.

Fact or fiction, this is a fascinating story told with care for detail. The author's use of mediaeval words gives extra authenticity.

### FLYING SAUCERS OVER LOS ANGELES: The UFO Craze of the '50s by Dewayne B. Johnson

Publisher: Adventures Unlimited Press, USA, 1998

ISBN: 0-932813-54-2 (280pp s/c)

Price: AUD\$27.00; NZD\$34.00;

GBP£15.00; NLGf35.90; USD\$16.00

Available: **Aust/NZ/UK/Eur**—NEXUS offices; **USA**—Adventures Unlimited, ph (815) 253 6390, fax (815) 253 6300

Dewayne Johnson completed his thesis, "Flying Saucers: Fact or Fiction?", in August 1950 as a student in the Graduate Department of Journalism at UCLA, but never published it. Recently Kenn Thomas, of *Steamshovel Press* fame, stumbled upon it and teamed up with AUP's David Hatcher Childress to publish it—the two adding commentary and introduction to what has become *Flying Saucers Over Los Angeles*.

Now close to 50 years old, it remains a valuable social and psychological critique, capturing the feel of the earliest years of the UFO frenzy. Actually, as Thomas points out, LA was swept with UFO fervour as early as 1942 when a US fighter plane had a brush with a globular or triangular shaped craft, but Johnson's coverage primarily takes in reported "flying saucer" events and hoaxes from 1947 (starting with Kenneth Arnold

and including Roswell) to 1950.

Apart from analysing newspaper reports and eyewitness accounts with a journalist's eye for detail and a decent dose of wit and irony, Johnson considers the what, why, how, when and whence of the phenomenon, and questions whether the "flying crockery" was of alien origin or the product of Cold War one-upmanship. Was the first wave of sightings recorded in southern California because of the proximity of top-secret bases where saucers were being built?

Interspersed through the text and featured within a special colour section are images from a variety of UFO and sci-fi magazines from the late 1940s to early 1960s. While many of them post-date the text, they add to the atmosphere and are a real treat for UFO nostalgia buffs. This "blast from the past" is certainly a rivetting read.

### REMARKABLE HEALINGS

#### by Shakuntala Modi, MD

Publisher: Hampton Roads, USA, 1997

ISBN: 1-57174-079-1 (632pp tpb)

Price: AUD\$31.95; NZD\$49.95;

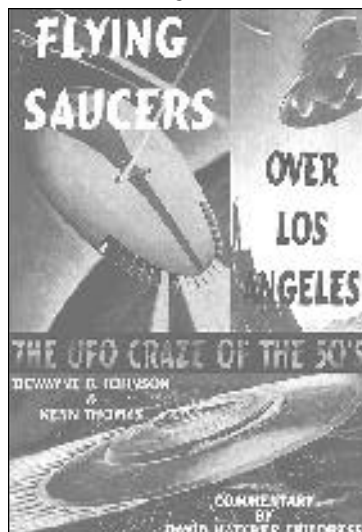
GBP£15.99; NLGf45.90; USD\$18.95

Distributors: **Aust**—Gemcraft, ph (03) 9888 0111; **NZ**—Peaceful Living, ph (07) 571 8105; **UK**—Airlift Book Company, ph 0181 804 0400; **Europe**—NEXUS office; **USA**—Hampton Roads, ph (804) 296 2772, 1800 766 8009, fax (804) 296 5096; **Can**—Dempsey, ph (604) 708 1081

A decade ago, psychiatrist Dr Shakuntala Modi was not quite prepared for one of her patients to go into a spontaneous past-life regression during a regular hypnosis session, and certainly not for another patient several months later who declared he was possessed by a demon.

Working through these experiences with her patients, she soon discovered that past-life traumas and possessions by spirits (whether Earthbound or demonic) are so real that they leave physical, emotional and mental scars. The experiences forced upon her a re-evaluation of her practices and the fundamentals upon which her profession is based—so much so that she believes psychiatry will eventually come out of denial about the reality of these phenomena.

To her relief, Dr Modi found that these traumas can be eliminated—and, in some cases, exorcised. In most instances it would take no more than a couple of hypnosis therapy sessions for the patient to connect with and accept his past-life trauma, possession or even "loss of soul parts", and then be free of his ailments. In some cases, a great number of sessions would be required so as to connect with at least a dozen trauma incidents before the patient's chronic physical





# REVIEWS

## BOOKS

condition could be alleviated.

Dr Modi's discoveries and her patients' amazing case histories make for compelling reading in her book, *Remarkable Healings*. While she doesn't make serious forays into the realms of alien abduction or mind control, Dr Modi does make valuable inroads in expanding the boundaries of normality.

### FACES OF THE VISITORS: An Illustrated Reference to Alien Contact by Kevin Randle and Russ Estes

Publisher: Fireside/Simon & Schuster, UK, USA, 1997

ISBN: 0-684-83973-3 (309pp tpb)

Price: AUD\$19.95; NZD\$24.95;

GBP£8.99; NLGf28.90; USD\$12.00

Distributors: **Aust/UK/USA/Canada—**

Simon & Schuster; **NZ—**MacMillan, ph

(09) 415 6672; **Europe—**NEXUS office

In case you've only just progressed from little green to little grey men, you're in for a surprise. Over the last 50 years, witnesses around the world have reported over 100 different types of alien creatures making their presence known, and a cross-section of them is featured in *Faces of the Visitors*.

For this book, UFO researcher/author Kevin Randle and artist/documentary-maker Russ Estes describe/portray a wildly diverse range of sightings: beings ranging from three inches to 10 feet tall; creatures from the slug-like to the robotic and the reptoid; humanoids from the Nordic to the cat-eyed; and a variety of big-eyed/eared/nosed entities possessing varying degrees of intelligence and compassion towards humanity.

The authors give a "reliability rating" with each case summary. On a scale of 1-10,

they give some cases a high rating based on the number of witnesses involved, and other cases a low score due to lack of corroborative evidence. Their case studies are divided into three categories: reports from witnesses who saw the alien(s) at close range; from contactees who claim interaction with beings supposedly here to help us; and from abductees who mostly claim they've been experimented upon against their will.

This "illustrated reference to alien contact", replete with vast UFO-related bibliography, also chronicles two important "visitation" waves: a 1954 Europe/South America flurry, and a 1973 North American flap. The authors admit there is surprisingly scant photographic evidence from all these encounters, but they include a couple of now-familiar and quite weird examples here.

### TECHNOLOGY'S CURSE: Diet for the Atomic Age

by Sara Shannon

Publisher: Earthpulse Press, USA, 1998

(first published 1987, revised 1993)

ISBN: tba (373pp h/c; soon in s/c)

Price: AUD\$60.00; GBP£n/a; NLGf n/a;

USD\$27.95

Available: **Aust—**Cameron Books, ph (02)

4758 7676, fax (02) 4758 9047; **UK/**

**Europe—**NEXUS offices (see page 2);

**USA—**Earthpulse Press, PO Box 201393,

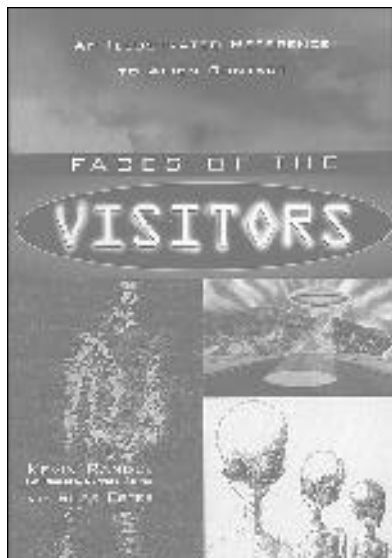
Anchorage, AK 99520, voicemail (907)

249 9111, fax (907) 696 1277

The evidence that radioactive substances are the most powerful toxins in our food led Sara Shannon, a now-retired New York City-based nutritionist, to write *Diet for the Atomic Age*. That was over 10 years ago, and the book has now been republished as *Technology's Curse*. Its message is just as pressing today as the long-term effects of past nuclear disasters become increasingly evident and the possibility of future accidents more likely. And with electromagnetic pollution now so all-pervasive in our lives, her advice is ever more critical.

In the late 1970s Shannon started exploring the suggestion that certain foods had radioprotective qualities and could help detoxify or counteract radiation's hazardous effects. She found that garlic, whole grains, nuts and seeds, vitamin/mineral supplements, tempeh, leafy green and yellow vegetables have beneficial properties, with sea vegetables being especially rich in detoxifying minerals. She also learnt why meat, fish, milk and anything that's refined and processed are best avoided.

Sadly, we have to be very choosy even about our radioprotective food sources: that our leafy greens weren't grown downwind of a nuclear or chemical plant with fertiliser



# REVIEWS



## BOOKS

contaminated with radioactive waste or toxic sewage sludge. However, rather than dwell on gloom and doom, we *can* take positive steps for our personal and planetary health. Shannon lists a range of contacts and resources we can follow up—but we can always distract ourselves in the kitchen experimenting with her tempting recipes!

### THOTH: Architect of the Universe

by R. Ellis

Publisher: Edfu Books, UK, 1997

ISBN: 0-9531913-03 (h/c)

Price: AUD\$poa; GBP£14.99 + £2 p&h;

NLGf53.90; USD\$25.95 +p&h

Distributors: **Aust**—Specialist

Publications, ph (02) 9736 2191; **UK**—

Edfu Books, PO Box 3223, Dorset BH31

6FJ, ph/fax 01202 828886, e-mail,

kena.edfu@virgin.net; **Europe**—NEXUS

office; **USA**—Adventures Unlimited, ph

(815) 253 6390

This treatise is less about the Egyptian god Thoth in his various guises than the legacy he has left around the planet. A number of mythologies have it that Thoth endowed upon evolving humanity the knowledge of architecture, astronomy, mathematics, measurement, physics as well as reading and writing. So why shouldn't he leave messages encoded in monuments for future generations to decipher?

Author R. Ellis is one of many researchers devoted to the task, and the findings he presents in *Thoth: Architect of the Universe* are illuminating, though often inconclusive. Ellis notes the mathematical commonalities, such as the *pi* ratio, that are evident in the pyramids at Giza and Dahshur in Egypt, the



major Neolithic sites in Britain such as Stonehenge, Avebury and Silbury Hill (a buried step pyramid?), and the pyramids at Teotihuacan in Mexico—and sees the hand of Thoth in every monument and site. The peak of Thoth's activity, according to Ellis's calculations, was around 13,700 years ago, but this date is based on movements in the Earth's axis that are assumed to be constant.

So why should Thoth spark off new civilisations and then depart without leaving any records in a safe place? And where could that place be? Ellis proposes that the layout of the Great Pyramid (upside down) and Stonehenge can be viewed as maps of the globe, both of them pointing to a place: the Sandwich Islands, arguably one of the last vestiges of Atlantis! Could one of Thoth's repositories be located there? Who knows!

### THE HIDDEN MAYA

by Martin Brennan

Publisher: Bear & Company, USA, 1998

ISBN: 1-879181-24-X (281pp tpb)

Price: AUD\$39.95; NZD\$52.95;

GBP£16.99; NLGf44,00; USD\$20.00

Distributors: **Aust**—Gemcraft, ph (03)

9888 0111; **NZ**—Peaceful Living, ph (07)

571 8105; **UK**—Airlift Book Company, ph

0181 8040400; **Eur**—NEXUS office, ph

+31 (0)321 380558; **USA**—Bear & Co.

Publishing, ph (505) 983 5968, 1800-WE-

BEARS, fax (505) 989 8386

The use of handsigns in art and sculpture is prevalent in many spiritual traditions, but the Maya were especially prolific in their use of handsigns or manographs in the glyphs decorating their artefacts. In *The Hidden Maya*, author Martin Brennan reveals that these manographs are the keys to the very core of Maya thought.

Brennan explains how hand gestures played an intrinsic role in the development of writing, and how, with a variety of dialects in the Maya lands of Central America, a commonly understood sign language developed into a complex artistic language with both mundane and esoteric meanings. Indeed, contrary to scholarly opinion, it would appear that the North American Plains Indians borrowed their sophisticated sign language system from the south—a realisation that drew Brennan to the Maya in the first place.

When he compared their handsigns with the glyphs from the Maya codices and artefacts, Brennan found that the hand gestures are central to understanding the glyph's meaning and, moreover, that the manographs retain the inherent logic of the handsign system. As he decoded, the hands literally opened a new door to a deeper understanding of Maya cosmology, their astrono-



# REVIEWS

my and number science and the purpose of their rituals. Often his translations differ from those accepted by scholars—so expect some lively debate.

This detailed, well-illustrated journey into the hidden realms of the Maya is also testament to the intrinsic role of hand/finger manipulation in the evolution of the human brain and the development of civilisation.

## BREAKING THE SOUND BARRIER OF HUMAN ENERGY PRODUCTION

by John O'Neill

Publisher: John O'Neill, Aust, 1997 (3ed)

ISBN: 0-646-31948-5 (s/c)

Price: AUD\$25.00 inc. p&h; overseas orders AUD\$30.00 inc. p&h

Available: **Australia**—John O'Neill, 56 Julie Way, Mudgeeraba Qld 4213, ph/fax +61 (0)7 5530 5982 (see ad on page 95)

The Q10 enzyme (ubidecarenone) is the greatest nutritional discovery in molecular science to date—in the opinion of John O'Neill, an extremely healthy, fit and athletic 59-year-old who's been researching physiology and sports medicine for decades. All you wanted to know about Q10 and more is covered in his book, *Breaking the Sound Barrier of Human Energy Production*.

Anyone interested in maximising their energy, or who does intensive training whatever the sport, can learn a great deal from it.

Q10 is the critical enzyme needed by the cell mitochondria to produce energy. But for the mitochondria to operate efficiently, toxic by-products like lactate, ammonia and carbon dioxide must be limited. If not, the electron transport system (ETS) suffers and can no longer split hydrogen atoms and convert their protons and electrons to water with the help of oxygen (and Q10), and thus the entire body suffers. Considering how we

plague our systems with toxins, we are only bringing on the ageing process and encouraging disease. Our livers can barely keep up with our cellular demands for Q10.

Fortunately, Q10 supplements are non-toxic and reportedly have no side effects—except for improved health, energy and longevity! But, as with all supplements on the market, some are better than others, and consumers need to be well-informed to sort out the wheat from the chaff. This book is one of the few covering Q10 in the context of human cell energy efficiency.

## PRE-TASMAN EXPLORERS

by Ross Wiseman

Publisher: Discovery Press, NZ, 1998

ISBN: 0-473-04505-2 (406pp s/c)

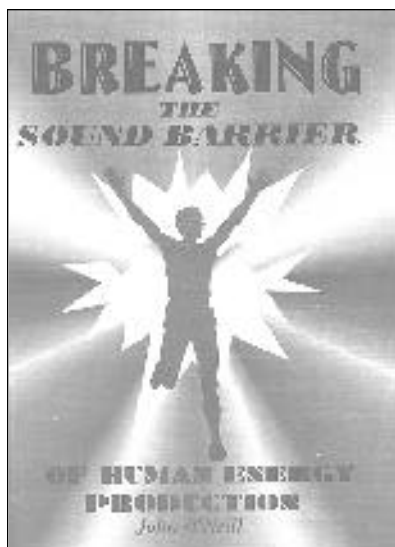
Price: NZD\$49.95 inc. p&h in NZ; overseas p&h add NZD\$6.00

Distributors: **New Zealand**—Chris Beckett Ltd, ph (09) 415 8844; overseas orders through Discovery Press, ph +64 9 836 0772, fax +64 9 837 6364

Historians tend to act as guardians of the prevailing cultural paradigm, argues researcher Ross Wiseman, and in New Zealand (as in Australia, for that matter) it is reinforced by promotion of Capt. James Cook's "discovery" in 1768 over that of the Dutch Abel Tasman in 1642. But in *Pre-Tasman Explorers*, Wiseman reminds us that NZ has been visited, mapped and even settled several times in the last 2,600 years.

A number of artefacts have been found that are inconsistent with the prevailing paradigm and whose validity has been denied or ignored by academia. Wiseman analyses the historical background of each item as far as it can be traced, and draws reasonable conclusions that should encourage heated discussion. He dates an iron helmet dredged from Wellington Harbour in 1888 to a visit by Spanish explorer Capt. Juan Fernandez in 1576. But the Portuguese had already mapped the east coast of both islands in 1522, as depicted in the 1536 Dauphin map drawn up by French cartographers.

Other visitors or settlers included the Tamils who left behind a ship's bell in the 1170s, the Maori who arrived c. 850–870, Arab sailors who lost a bird carved of green serpentine (not found in NZ) in the 790s, Ptolemaic Greeks c. 180 BC, Mauryan sailors who brought the rat from India around 240 BC, and Phoenician settlers c. 666 BC. The Phoenicians left clues to their presence in stone, but their likely settlement around Lake Taupo in the north island was probably destroyed by volcanic eruption in AD 186. Much evidence still lies buried, so Wiseman puts out an impassioned plea for archaeologists to continue the research.



# REVIEWS



## VIDEOS

Reviewed by Duncan Roads

### HOLES IN HEAVEN? HAARP and Advances in Tesla Technology

Producer: Paula Randol-Smith Productions, 1998, PO Box 91655, Pasadena CA 91109-1655, USA; ph/fax 626 395 9777 (PAL & NTSC, 51mins) Price: AUD\$45.00; NZD\$59.00; STG£22.00; USD\$29.95 Available: **Australia**—NEXUS Magazine, PO Box 30, Mapleton Qld 4560, ph (07) 5442 9280; **NZ/UK/Eur**—NEXUS offices; **USA**—Adventures Unlimited, ph (815) 253 6390, fax (815) 253 6300

This is a really good video! It is professionally produced, excellently researched, is up to date and has all the major players involved with the HAARP ionospheric project featured on the film—in most cases making rather scary comments.

Readers who are still wondering what on Earth HAARP is should read the article in NEXUS 2/22 (Oct-Nov '94) (the very first article to appear anywhere on HAARP!) and the update in NEXUS 3/01.

The documentary uncomfortably reveals that the project directors themselves still are not certain what outcome or side-effects will eventuate from this vast experiment with the Earth's ionospheric layers.

Considering these experiments will affect all life in the northern hemisphere, and most likely the southern hemisphere as well, it is time more countries became aware of what the Americans are attempting to do.

## PRODUCT

Reviewed by Duncan Roads

### AIR SUPPLY™ Personal Air Purifier

Designed and manufactured by Wein Products, Inc., Los Angeles, CA, USA Distributed in Australia by Inner Glow Health Products Pty Ltd, PO Box 199, Warrandyte Vic 3113; ph (03) 9844 4471, fax (03) 9844 4884

An air purifier you can wear? It even comes with a plug that can be inserted into your car's cigarette lighter. The pamphlet accompanying the gadget suggests the air purifier can be worn in a shirt pocket or around the neck. Indeed, it is as small as a pocket beeper.

The claims and accompanying test results (from UCLA) indicate that it draws in and destroys germs, odours, dust, mould, spores and even toxic chemicals—while emitting pure, clean air. Weighing in at only 4 ounces, it operates on a 9-volt battery and makes only the faintest hum.

## VIDEOS

... received but not reviewed ...

### REMEMBERING THE END OF THE WORLD (from the Mythscape Series)

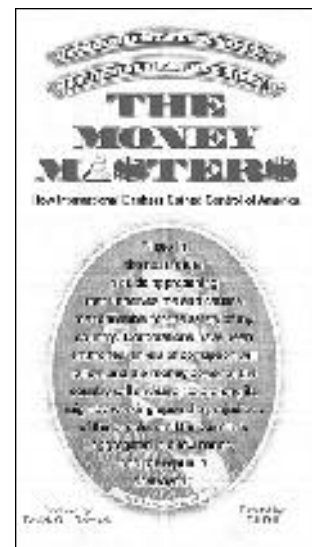
Producer: Kronia Comms Inc., USA, 1996 (PAL & NTSC, 90mins) Available: Kronia Communications Inc.; ph 1800 230 9347 (USA only); e-mail, kronia@kronia.com; website, <http://www.kronia.com/>—kronia

Actually, I did watch this one! It's about Immanuel Velikovsky. In the 1950s Velikovsky became well-known for his theories that the Earth's ancient past was dominated by catastrophe and cosmic upheaval. His research led to the conclusion that many early civilisations were nearly destroyed by the close approach of a great, legendary comet—an intruder Velikovsky identified as the planet Venus.

### THE MONEY MASTERS: How International Bankers Gained Control of America

Producer: Patrick S. J. Carmack for Royalty Productions (2-tape set, PAL & NTSC, duration n/a) Available: Money Masters Video, Box 114, Piedmont, OK 73078, USA; ph 1888-THEPLOT (ext. 60) (toll-free in US only)

At the time I write this, I have only watched about two-thirds of tape A, and I must say I'm looking forward to watching tape B. What I have seen so far reveals what I would agree is a "hidden history" of both Europe and America, especially if one is interested in the "money flow".







# REVIEWS

## AUDIO

Reviewed by Richard Giles

### BOTHY CULTURE

by Martyn Bennett

Producer: Martyn Bennett for Rykodisc, UK, 1997 (59mins)

Distributors: **Australia**—Festival ph (02) 9660 4022; **UK**—Rykodisc, ph 0181 746 1234; **USA**—Rykodisc, ph (508) 744 7678

Combine Scottish bagpipes, Celtic fiddle and Gaelic sound with cutting-edge electronic rave/dance music and you've got Martyn Bennett's high-energy sound. It's fascinating today to hear the range of new music combining the traditional with wild grooves. Bennett, classically trained at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music, is one of a new generation of musicians taking the music of their roots and fusing it with rock to make new inroads into late-20th-century music populism. Be prepared for some crazy and invigorating sounds on this *Bothy Culture* album.

### DANCE IN THE FIRE

by Paul Cheneour and Dilly Meah

Producer: Roland Clark and Paul Cheneour for RGM, UK, 1998 (61mins)  
Price: STG£12.50 + £1.50 p&h (£2 o/s)  
Distributor: **UK**—RGM Ltd, West Sussex, ph 0181 668 4444

Two musicians, one from a Western background, the other from an Eastern, combine to produce music in the moment. Paul Cheneour plays a range of flutes (and has previously released a number of his own flute albums), and Dilly Meah plays tabla. Between them they create an extraordinary woven tapestry of sound and feeling; the combination is just exquisite. On this new album, *Dance in the Fire*, their co-creative energy produces some magical and inspiring moments of sound. An excellent collaboration between two top musicians.

### SURA

by Chloë Goodchild

Producer: Chloë Goodchild for Raven Recording, NJ, USA, 1998 (56mins)  
Distributors: **Aust**—New Age Media, ph (08) 9430 7777; **USA**—Raven Recording, ph 1800-76-RAVEN or (973) 642 1979; **Germany**—ph +49 8105 384858

Chloë Goodchild's album *Sura* reflects her dedication to the true spiritual traditions of the world—with music from the Sanskrit mantram "Gayatri", the "Ave Generosa" of the mediaeval Rhineland mystic Hildegard, an ecstatic love poem by the 13th-century Kashmiri mystic Lalleshwari, an ancient Jewish chant, an Eastern

European improvisation, and more. Chloë, who leads vocal training workshops, is the author of several books and has released 18 albums. Her "musical landscapes" are inspired by African magical, Asian mythical and European harmonic music, and *Sura* is an interface of all those styles.

### BENEDICTION MOON

by Pia

Producer: P. J. Booker for New World Music, Suffolk, UK, 1998 (58mins)

Distributors: **Australia**—New World Productions, ph (07) 3367 0788; **UK**—New World Music, ph 0198 678 1682

Disturbingly beautiful, angelic music is the way to describe *Benediction Moon*. Made with the support of friends and mentors, this is Pia's first solo album. The lush orchestral sound arrangements and Pia's gorgeously powerful voice sweep the listener into the spiritual realms. Her aim is to use her voice in "service to God and the entire creation". With background training from renowned Bengali musician Haridas Ganguli, Pia is fittingly at home in this musical kingdom. Excellent album.

### COSMIC TREE

by Yulara

Producer: Robert Matt for Higher Octave Music, USA, 1998 (58mins)

Distributors: **Australia**—MRA Entertainment, ph (07) 3849 6020; **USA**—Higher Octave, ph 1800 562 8283

If you feel tuned to soft, ambient jazz and the mix of instruments from half a dozen cultures, *Cosmic Tree* will entrance you. Annie Hilsberg and Robert Matt—Yulara—play flute, sax, keyboards and percussion backed by several musician friends on tabla and guitar, and recorded chants from Tibet, Borneo and India. Selected numbers are mixed with the ambient sounds of nature from places like Peru and India. A very mellow world/jazz/fusion album, capturing the spirit of the planet working together.

